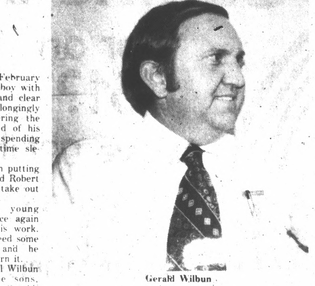
# Profile: Gerald Wilbun



Gerald Wilbun

It was a cold February afternoon and the boy with sandy blond hair and clear blue eyes caught longingly of the snow covering the nearby hillside and of his friends who were spending their after school time sleigh-riding.

"When you finish putting up that stock," said Robert Wilbun, "you can take out those boxes."

With a start, young Gerald Wilbun once again concentrated on his work. After all, he did need some spending money and he knew he had to earn it.

Robert and Hazel Wilbun loved their three sons, Ryland, the oldest, Gerald, the middle son, and Charles, the youngest with a deep abiding love, but they knew the boys must be taught the importance of work. Some day, yes without a doubt, the boys would appreciate their upbringing.

Gerald Wilbun was born in Appomattox County and educated in the public school of this county. Along with his brothers he attended church regularly and learned early to give God first place in their lives.

"We had Sunday clothes, school clothes, and everyday clothes," said Gerald as he talked of his childhood. "And he added, "there were always chores."

"Even though my father had a grocery store," said Gerald, "We had a big garden always. Daddy bought us a David Bradley tractor and all the equipment that went with it. This meant work but we really had a good time with it."

Gerald's father ran a grocery store, first in Red House and then he moved to Appomattox with his business. Gerald began working for his father on a part time basis in 1956; he got into the grocery business full time in 1961.

When the boys were young, Gerald remembers his father taking them to other grocery stores. One hard and fast rule was laid down: 'Keep your hands in your pocket. You may look all you want but if I see your hands out of your pocket, back to the car you go."

Gerald is married to the former Sandra Winn; they are the parents of three children; Matt, age eight; David, age six; and Betsy, age three.

Even though the grocery store demands long, hard hours of work, Gerald enjoys hiking when time permits. The Wilburns are members of Memorial United Methodist Church and Gerald is a member of the Appomattox Lions Club.

"Trying to make people happy, seeing them pleased in what we have to offer in the line of groceries and trying always to do right by the customers makes me happy," said Gerald as he spoke of the satisfaction he derives from his work.

The grocery business may be hard work but it has moments of humor too. Gerald remembers one such incident.

"A man came in the store with a long list of groceries for the family. He carefully made all the purchases and left the store going home. Just a few minutes after he had left his wife came in, bought exactly the same order of groceries and went home. Within the hour both husband and wife came back to the store. They had a double order of everything they needed. They wanted to know if I would take back one of the grocery orders. We did, of course," laughed Gerald.

Gerald Wilbun, Grocery Man.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# Tests planned for P. O. jobs

The United States Postal Service has announced that clerk and carrier craft examinations will be given in the near future and urged that all those interested apply to take the job related tests that can lead to Postal Service employment. Applications will be accepted at Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Lynchburg, Madison Heights, and Rustburg, Virginia.

The Postal Service is beginning a new program which will provide greater employment opportunities for eligibles on hiring registers. Applicants will now have the opportunity to be considered for employment at three post offices. Previously, they could only be considered for employment at one office, after taking a test.

"I do not want to give the impression that we will be hiring great numbers of people in the coming months," a spokesman said. "It is anticipated that a combined total of approximately 30 vacancies will occur during the next two years at the offices listed in the announcement, that will be filled by hiring people from the up-dated job register. We need qualified people who will be willing to accept employment and want to offer people in the local communities the chance to compete for these openings by signing up for, and taking the examination.

The examination conducted under this program will be used to establish an Area Eligibility Register. Complete information about the Area Register will be provided at the time of the test.

Those wishing to take this examination can apply by completing Application Form 2479 A & B. These forms may be obtained at any Station or Branch of any of the offices listed above. Completed applications are to be returned to any post office listed above, October 11 through October 24, 1980. Applicants will be notified of the date, time, and place of the examination as soon as possible.

# Local students get program job offers

Cooperative Office Education is a work study program designed to aid students in office careers through class room training and on the job experience. These students receive a salary while working in the afternoon which began on Sept. 2, and will continue through the school year. In order to be an applicant for COE, the student must be in the process of completing the business curriculum chosen; these students will receive one credit for the COE program. Many businesses and schools through out Appomattox and Lynchburg assist with the training of these well-qualified students each year.

The COE coordinators are pleased to announce the following job assignments for the 1980-81 school year: Ramona Gagneur and Teresa Johnson, Appomattox Elementary School; Barbara Baker, Tammy Bates, Bonnie Layne, and Sandra Reynolds, Appomattox County High School; Gina Adams, Jeannette Hipps, and Sherry Martin, Appomattox Middle School; Karen Rasmussen, Valarie McCoy, and Margaret Moore, Appomattox Primary School; Joan Robertson, Sharon Taylor, and Kim Wade, Armstrong Furniture Co.; Debbie Harris, Central Fidelity Bank; Elizabeth Mullins and Penny Wooten, First Colony Life Insurance Co.; Lisa Franklin, National Park Service; Jane Almond, Pamplin Elementary school; Tommy Jamerson, Sheriff Department; and Peggy Goin, Virginia Cooperative Extension Office.

# AARP enjoys evening of entertainment

The AARP had a most enjoyable evening of entertainment on August 11 at the Masonic Lodge in Pamplin.

The bygone era of vaudeville was presented by the very talented "Goblen Merrymakers" of Lynchburg with vocal solos, duets and choral groups.

The instruments consisted of piano, drums, 2 guitars, 3 harmonicas and 25 kazoos, four ukuleles as well as tambourines and spoons.

Comedy in the show was outstanding and a joy to be remembered for a long time by those who attended.

There were about 25 entertainers all of which were costumed in very attractive white and blue western attire with bright red neck scarves.

Sid Stevens 82 years old sang "Let The Rest Of The World Go By". The McGuire sisters sang a duet in a good rendition of "Ramona". Our own local talent Mr. Grover Smith told a number of jokes that were most enjoyable and his wife Neola, sang "Sioux City Sue" in a manner that kept the audience tapping to the rhythm.

Mr. Lawrence Young a former resident of Pamplin was as usual the "Mr Personality."

The well known "Screechy Carwile" of bygone radio days sang "When You And I Were Young Maggie" while playing his own lamaliar guitar.

Bob Coffey gave a beautiful rendition of "Your Cheating Heart" on his electric guitar.

The Pamplin Chapter of AARP wishes to express their most sincere thanks and appreciation to the "Golden Merrymakers" and also to all those who were so generous with their donations.


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HESSTON FARM EQUIPMENT

VINCE MCELROY (LEFT) and Scott Elliott were declared winners of the annual FFA Tractor Troubleshooting Contest held last week at the State Fair. Competing against teams from across the state, Vince and Scott successfully diagnosed the troubles with their tractor and had it running properly before the time limit was up. Both students will receive a trip to Kansas City to the National FFA Convention in November as a part of their prize. The team was trained by Mr. W. C. Perrow and Mrs. J. W. Morgan.

James Lewis Elder

# James Elder retires

Thursday, Sept. 18 was the last day of employment for James Lewis Elder, dispatcher with the Virginia State Police.

Elder, who has worked 35 years for the department began work on November 26, 1945 and came to Appomattox July 31; 1946. He entered State Police Basic Training School on January 3, 1954 and completed his schooling on March 28, 1954. Prior to coming to Appomattox he worked for the State Police Headquarters in Richmond.

Elder and his wife, Margaret C. Elder live at Hat Creek near Brookneal. They are the parents of two sons, James S. Elder, Major in the United States Air Force stationed at Dayton, Ohio and Dennis M. Elder, employed at Babcock and Wilcox and living in the Brookneal Community.

"I have enjoyed my work tremendously," commented Elder on Thursday, "and I would do it all over again if I had the chance."

Lt. George Morris, in speaking of Elder's retirement said: "Dispatcher Elder was a most loyal and dedicated employee; he was a good man to have around."

Although Dispatcher Elder's retirement is officially effective December 1, 1980, accumulated leave entitles him to early retirement.

# ASCS elections set for county

By TOM CONRAD

On October 3 the ASCS office will send to all eligible voters in the county nominating petitions for the upcoming ASC community committee elections.

The first duty of newly elected community committee members will be to serve as delegates to elect new members of the county ASC committee.

The ASC community committee election will be conducted by mail from November 21 to December 1. By turning in a total of six or more petitions, farmers in each ASC community have the opportunity to prepare the slate of nominees themselves. I hope that farmers will submit enough valid petitions to fill the slate.

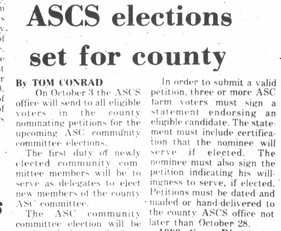
Shortly after October 28, all petitions will be received. If six or more valid petitions have been received for an ASC community, the incumbent community committee will add nominees needed to complete the slate.

## Hipps assigned

Airman Greggry M. Hipps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hipps of Route 1, Pamplin, Va., has been assigned to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, after completing Air Force basic training.

During the six weeks at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree in applied science through the Community College of the Air Force.




In order to submit a valid petition, three or more ASC farm voters must sign a statement endorsing an eligible candidate. The statement must include certification that the nominee will serve if elected. The nominee must also sign the petition indicating his willingness to serve, if elected. Petitions must be dated and mailed or hand-delivered to the county ASCS office not later than October 28.

**1980 Corn Disaster**

Corn producers participating in the 1980 Feed Grain Program are eligible for low yield benefits if their corn crop suffered at least a 60% loss. Applications for low yield payments must be filed within 15 days from the date of harvest. If you store your corn, we will visit your farm to determine production. If corn produced on more than one farm will be sorted together, we need to measure production from each farm separately. If you sell your grain please retain all sales slips and weight tickets. If you will destroy drought damaged corn or cut it for silage, please contact the ASCS office to arrange for an appraisal of production before the crop is destroyed.

# Childress receives promotion

Marine Lance Cpl. Mark W. Childress, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Childress of Route 1, Box 107C, Concord, Va., has been meritoriously promoted to his present rank while serving at the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana, Calif.

He received the accelerated promotion in recognition of outstanding performance, duty proficiency and demonstrated professional abilities.

A 1978 graduate of Rustburg High School, Rustburg, Va., he joined the Marine Corps in April 1979.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# Appo. Bapt. Temple

By GLORIA DAY

A good number of people attended Homecoming Sunday at A.B.T. Pastor Gallagher taught Sunday School and everyone enjoyed a personal testimony given by Mr. Mason and message by Mr. Sumner Wemp. Lots of good food and fellowship was enjoyed before the 2:00 service. Special music was provided by Betty Rhodenheizer, The Pantanas, and The Burnells.

Norma Jean Martin won first place in the Sunday School campaign and received a nice Thompson Chain-Reference Bible and Denise Gibbs came in second winning a nice commentary. Mickey and Roxanne Higgins provided a lovely flower arrangement for the occasion.

Last Tuesay evening the Ladies Fellowship held their monthly birthday party at Babcock Manor. Mrs. Shelby Tucker baked and decorated a lovely cake in the honor of three having birthdays in September. They were Ben Coleman, Clarence Reed, and Mary Pugh. Happy Birthday and God Bless each of you.

Please lift the following to the Lord in prayer this week: Mrs. Ellen Nash, Nora Handy, Mrs. Jennings, Frank Harris Mrs Cyrus sister-in-law, Tom and Roby Day and Jonathan Falwell.

Young people-don't forget Oct. 10, late skate at A. J. Skateworld from 12:00 2:00 Everyone is invited. Teens plan to come and bring all your frineds.

Verse for the week: For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's and of the holy angels.

## course

Pvt. Larry H. Adams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie H. Adams, Route 1, Madisonville, Va., recently completed the Power Generation and Wheeled Vehicle Mechanics Course at the U. S. Army Training Center, Fort Dix, N. J.

The self-paced, performance-oriented program of instruction teaches basic automotive theory, maintenance-shop operations, and specific maintenance procedures for tactical vehicles, including ¼-ton, 5/4-ton, 2½-ton and 5-ton trucks.

The course also includes instruction in the operation and maintenance of power-generation equipment and are welders

## Doss completes training

Private Lisa Darlene Doss completed basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey on Sept. 11 and will continue her training at Fort Belvour, Va. After this training she will go to U. S. Army, Europe to complete her career in the armed forces. Pvt. Doss is the daughter of Mrs. Gladys D. Gallier and the late William A. (Bud) Do..



# Mrs. Clapp recognized by UDC

Mrs. John M. Clapp

The Appomattox Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy recognizes Mrs. John M. Clapp as a Real-Daughter of a veteran of the confederacy.

If the confederate effort during the civil war symbolized the independence and perseverance of the old south, then Mrs. Clapp has throughout her eighty-six years, epitomized these attributes.

She is the youngest and the last survivor of the six children born to Chesteel Alexander, and Martha Elizabeth Cobb Tickle, of Guilford County, N. C. Born on October 16, 1893, she was christened Ruth Margaret Albright Tickle.

She grew up in Guilford County and went to school in a one-room log cabin and was also taught at home by her school teacher father. She later attended Lenoir Rhine College. At an early age she became a member of her parents beloved Friedens Lutheran Church, near Gibsonville, N. C. She later became a member of Evergreen Baptist Church.

On October 14, 1914, she married John McHyne Clapp and their first son, Richard, was born August 6, 1915. In the fall of 1916 while carrying her second child, Mrs. Clapp became a polio victim, which left her right leg paralyzed. The terrible affliction of polio was bad enough but to be added to a pregnancy was quite an ordeal.

She survived the polio, learned to walk with one leg paralyzed and gave birth to her second son J. Allen, on Feb. 22, 1917.

Two more children, Daniel and Enid, were born before their move to Appomattox County in 1922. Their son John was born in October 1923 and soon after his birth, with her husband away from home, the house caught on fire. Her first thought was to put the baby out in the yard on a quilt and next to send Jay to a neighbor's for help and then she sent Richard to carry buckets of water, to her, to put the fire out. They saved the house but she relates that only this was accomplished with the help of God.

Later they became the parents of Hugh, Alice and Earl and with all this work Mrs. Clapp still worked in the fields on their farm near Evergreen. She still resides on her farm and is content with light housework and doing her beautiful crochet and crewel work. She has been widowed for 35 years.

Chesteel Alexander Tickle was a man who did not talk about the war in which he had so bravely fought, but upon his return home set about the business of preparing himself for a worthy and useful life. At his death on Jan. 7, 1909, his pastor, Rev. F. M. Harr and Rev. C. Brown Cox wrote tributes to Mr. Tickle from which the following is taken:

"Born on April 20, 1841, his life record of nearly 68 years is worthy of emulation by the best of men. At the opening of the civil war, before he had reached the legal age of enlistment, he volunteered and went to the front with Co. K, 47th. N. C. infantry, with which command he served until wounded near Petersburg about one month before the surrender at Appomattox. Loyal and brave as were the men of the 47th. not one stood the test of battle and hardship more resolutely and cheerfully than Alex Tickle. His comrades who survive him all bear witness to his heroism, fortitude and manly virtues while he followed Lee."

"It was the writer's privilege recently to examine a roster of Co. K. prepared by Mr. Tickle, in which he had noted the casualties to the men. After so many names was this pathetic record: "Killed at Gettysburg", "Lost in the wilderness", "Died in hospital", and after his own name in brief and modest terms, "Lost right leg". From Petersburg where he was wounded in March, he was taken to Richmond, where he languished in a federal hospital until June, when he was brought home by Mr. J. B. Summers."

"On his return home after the surrender, he realized that in order to make a decent living it was necessary to acquire a liberal education, which he did almost without a teacher. He was a man of sound judgment and more than ordinary business attainments. He taught in the counties of Guilford and Alamance public schools for a period of more than thirty years. He was always revered, respected and honored by his pupils, which is an evidence of his proficiency as an instructor. He was honored with the position of first assistant chief engrossing clerk in the general assembly of his native state which he filled with honor and fidelity. He was elected a justice of the peace in 1877, which office he filled almost continuously until the day of his death. His decisions, if ever carried to a higher court, were rarely ever reversed. During his magisterial office he officiated at the marriage of 61 couples."

"On the 16th of October, 1877 he was united in holy wedlock with Martha Elizabeth Cobb. Unto them were born six children. He was a devoted husband, a kind and affectionate father, and a true and trustworthy friend. The high esteem in which he was held by all we knew him was demonstrated by the large concourse of people who gathered to pay respect on the day of his burial."

He was a loyal member of old Friedens Lutheran Church and for many years held and office and always stood for progress and development. He was his pastor's enemy. The text for his funeral was taken from Timothy, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith, I am ready to be offered, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord the righteous judge shall give unto me in that day."

# Aflatoxin levels high

Commissioner S. Mason Carbaugh, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service, said today that early results of a state survey on 1980 corn indicates aflatoxin levels are running higher than expected.

"Aflatoxin is caused by a mold which is often prevalent during drought conditions such as we have been experiencing in Virginia," Carbaugh explained.

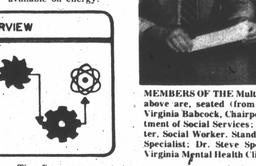
Roughly 25 percent are in excess of 20 parts per billion (ppb) with only about 7.5 percent about 100 ppb, which means all but 7.5 percent can be safely fed to nonlactating, mature animals. Aflatoxin guidelines are established by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

"Testing is the only way to know for sure the conditions of the corn," said the Commissioner. "We recommend testing by dealers, producers and other users to determine if any aflatoxin is present.

# Energy course slated here

Energy is domething we all feel like we hear too much about, yet many of us don't understand, much less remember, most of what we hear.

It's nice to think that our leaders will straighten everything out for us so we won't have to understnad (and worry about) our energy problems.




But government officials, particularly those in Congress, are today perhaps more responsive than ever to the persons they represent. Therefore, it's important for all of us to understand energy so we can give our representatives informed opinions.

Congress and the president constantly wrangle over national energy plans, oil companies take out television and newspaper ads to tell us their side of the story, utilities send out energy saving tips with our electric bills, referendums are held here and abroad on the future of nuclear power and the press runs articles on ingenious tinkerers who have built themselves solar homes.

Information is everywhere, but all these scraps of it can add up to a picture that is more confusing than helpful.

In an attempt to help the average person sort through the things he or she reads about energy every day, the Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension Service and the university's mechanical engineering department are starting a series of newspaper correspondence courses on energy.

The courses will outline energy issues to help the average person obtain the background he or she needs to be able to understand and evaluate the information available on energy.

The first course, to be presented next week, will offer a framework for understanding energy. Articles will discuss what energy is, how we use it and why we have an energy crisis.

Future courses will cover such topics as conservation, alternate energy sources, environmental concerns and nuclear power.

The courses are designed to emphasize broad overviews and explain concepts rather than detail how to insulate your home, for example. They will explain what conservation is, how it can work and what effect it can have. They will explain what nuclear power is, how we harness it for energy and what its hazards are.

Readers will be able to sign up with their local extension office to be tested on the material presented in the courses. Those passing the test will receive a certificate from Virginia Tech.

Call Lonnette M. Chilton at your local extension office for more information or to sign up for courses. The number is 352-8244.

MEMBERS OF THE Multi-Discipline Team for Child Welfare in Appomattox County shown above are, seated (from left to right) Dr. A. A. Fratrick, Private Practitioner; Mrs. Virginia Babcock, Chairperson of the team and Director of the Appomattox County Department of Social Services; Mrs. Jean Hesson, Special Education Director; Mrs. Betsy Carter, Social Worker. Standing, (left to right) are: Gwen Guthrie, Delinquency Prevention Specialist; Dr. Steve Spector and Ms. Diane Matthews, Psychologists of the Central Virginia Mental Health Clinic.

*In Appomattox*

# Welfare team tackles problems

The Multi-Discipline Team for Child Welfare in Appomattox County includes medical, educational, legal and social welfare professionals.

The goal of the team is to provide coordinated services to county children who are neglected, abused, or in need of special services.

Child abuse and neglect is a complex problem. Its identification, treatment and prevention require the combined skills of various human service delivery agencies.

Members of the Appomattox County Multi-Discipline Team for Child Welfare are Mrs. Virginia Babcock, Chairperson of the team and Director of the Appomattox County Department of Social Services; Dr. A. A. Fratrick, Private Practitioner; Ms. Eva Moore and Mrs. Betsy Carter, Social Workers; and Mrs. Jean Hesson, Special Education Director. Also on the team are Dr. Steve Spector and Ms. Diane Matthews, Psychologists of the Central Virginia Mental Health Clinic; Mrs. Brenda Richardson, Public Health Nurse; Mr. Lloyd Walton, Superintendent Appomattox County Public Schools and Mr. William S. Kerr, Commonwealth Attorney. Other members of the team are Carrington Martin, of the Appomattox County Sheriff's Department; Bruce Williams, Probation Counselor; and Gwen Guthrie, Delinquency Prevention Specialist.

The monthly meetings provide the team members opportunities to coordinate treatment and prevention services to families and children. The team supplies an avenue for the development of better relationships among agencies, and therefore, strength in working for the best interests of mutual clients. It reduces the risk of duplication of services and conflict of goals.

Also, the team provides relief to a worker who would otherwise have to make difficult decisions alone.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